Dateline October 15, 1959

Staff members of The Methodist Church's three national social action boards have voted all out support of the church-wide study on "Christ and Our Freedoms" and will shape their 1960 programs accordingly.

The action was part of a two-day meeting held October 5-6 in Washington, D. C. The three boards are Peace, Temperance, and Social and Economic Relations.

"Christ and Our Freedoms" is the Lenten study established by the Church's General Conference. The study book *Christ and Our Freedoms* was written by Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke, president of the Board of Social and Economic Relations.

The Temperance Board's Commitment Day program scheduled for December 6 picks up the theme by asking Methodists to decide, "How Free Are You—from the harmful effects of alcohol, narcotics, gambling, and pornography? How free are you personally and socially?"

Programs of the other boards will seek to help Methodists explore freedom from racial and class injustice, international disorder and war, and care of dependent children, the aged, and the sick.

In other actions the staff group agreed to:

- hold a national convocation on Christian social concerns in February, 1961.
- schedule an International School on Social Problems in Europe during the summer of 1961.
- continue the highly successful program of regional briefing conferences for Christian Social Relations leaders in 1960.
- name Lee A. Ranck of the Board of Temperance staff as managing editor of *Contact*, the social action

(continued on page 2)

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CONTACT

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- GENERAL BOARD OF WORLD PEACE
- GENERAL BOARD OF TEMPERANCE

of The Methodist Church

CONTACT

sponsored jointly by three World Service agencies of The Methodist Church

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5

Dateline

(continued from page 1)

newsletter sponsored by the three boards. Roger Burgess continues as editor.

- publish the Social Creed of The Methodist Church as a joint project after the 1960 General Conference.
- create a unified exhibit representing the three boards for display at the General Conference and at later meetings.
- nominate Miss Emogene Dunlap of the Board of Temperance staff to represent the three boards on the council of the National Conference of the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

The three staffs have been working more closely together during the past four years in the development of materials and program for the more than 11,000 local church commissions on Christian Social Relations and on other joint projects of mutual interest.

The Interboard Commission on Christian Social Relations and the Coordinating Council have been studying the possibility of a merger of the three boards into one united organization.

The 11th annual campaign of Religion in American Life will be conducted throughout the United States during November. American business, advertising, volunteer groups, churches, and synagogues will cooperate in an effort to raise worship service attendance.

Find the strength for your life...

RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE

WORSHIP TOGETHER THIS WEEK

For the third consecutive year, the theme "Find the Strength for Your Life . . . Worship Together This Week" will be repeated in all media as a call to all Americans to attend the church or synagogue of their choice.

Sponsored by 70 lay men and women of all faiths, the nonsectarian Religion in American Life Program is promoted through 26 national religious groups. More than $8,000,000 worth of time and space for RIAL messages are contributed by American businesses and advertising through the Advertising Council.

In this scientific age Religion In American Life calls Americans to a more dynamic and vital religious faith. In acknowledging that all final power over this world remains in God's hands, Americans will find strength for their lives.

A recent National Education Association report urges putting teachers in the front ranks in a proposed attack against juvenile delinquency.

Teachers should be mainly responsible for spotting delinquents, according to the report. The 350-page book is the second volume based on a year-long study of the delinquency problem.

"The school and the community should not wait until a youngster is on his way to court," the report says. "It is possible through early identification to forestall the development of many juvenile offenders."

The report calls for school programs for disturbed children in the early grades to offset poor homes and neighborhood influences.

A strike of 110 teachers has shut down nine public schools in the Cahokia, Ill., area.

The teachers are demanding higher wages and recognition of their union, Cahokia Federation of Teachers, Local 1272, AFL-CIO.

The president of the local union said that the teachers are not happy at the school board's refusal to recognize the union and approve a $300 annual wage increase.

Something new will be added to the traditional emphasis on Commitment Day when Methodists observe that church-wide event on December 6.

There will be the usual consideration of alcohol problems and abstinence. But in addition, members of the congregation will be asked to analize their Christian commitment and responsibility in the problem areas of gambling, narcotics, and pornography.

Plans for the day center on two basic questions: (1) How free are you from the personal and social consequences related to these problems? (2) How free are you when your brother suffers because of them?

Methodists will be asked to commit themselves to decision and action, using the unique new "check list" which was devised by the General Board of Temperance last year.

The theme "How Free Are You" is an introduction to the 1960 church-study theme "Christ and our Freedoms," according to Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, general secretary of the board. The study is based on the scripture reference, John 8:32: "You will know the truth and the truth will make you free."

Another first in the materials prepared for advance study is a new sound filmstrip designed to help local church groups discuss the Commitment Day theme in advance of the Day.

This broadening of the outreach of Commitment Day is a part of the dynamic new program of temperance which has been developing for the past several years, according to Dr. Hooton. It is part of the positive effort of The Methodist Church to enlist its people in action to solve social

(continued on the next page)

TEMPERANCE

(continued from page 3)

problems as well as abstinence from harmful social practices.

This year marks the 13th annual observance of Commitment Day in The Methodist Church. Prior to 1958 the emphasis had been primarily an encouragement of abstinence from the use of alcoholic beverages on the part of church members.

But in 1958 the approach was changed to center concern on one single alcohol problem, that of alcoholism. Materials prepared for the day urged action as well as personal commitment.

Now in 1959 the emphasis has been broadened to include other social problems in addition to alcohol.

Another part of the growing tide of Commitment Day observance has been the preparation of special materials for use by the Spanish speaking churches of Cuba and the Puerto Rico, Rio Grande, and Southern California-Arizona conferences.

The Commitment Day emphasis is part of Methodism's four point temperance program which includes education, commitment, rehabilitation and legislation.

What you can do about Commitment Day

A free packet of Commitment Day materials has gone from the General Board of Temperance to every pastor and chairman of the local church Commission on Christian Social Relations. If you have not received your packet, contact the board at once.

The October issue of the *Methodist Story* will feature the 1959 Commitment Day theme, "How Free Are You?" The November World Service leaflet—for use the last Sunday in November — introduces this theme. Other articles will be appearing in most Methodist periodicals during November.

Local church chairmen

You will assist the pastor in planning for Commitment Day. Your commission or committee can decide on advance planning, discussion opportunities, and the procedure to be followed on Commitment Day. The Blueprint for Commitment found in your packet of materials and the suggestions in the October *Methodist Story* will help with these plans.

Be sure to consider the purchase of the new Commitment Day filmstrip for use by church school discussion groups before and after December 6.

Conference board chairmen

Promotional efforts can be greatly enhanced by your action. Why not—

(1) Write each pastor telling him about the new materials to come. Encourage him to observe the event in his church. Suggest that he order materials early.

(2) Ask the Bishop to write or give you a message to use in your letter. If the annual conference has taken action recommending Commitment Day observance, quote that resolution.

(3) Check your conference or area *Advocate.* Is the editor planning a Commitment Day story? He will receive a release from Washington's Methodist Information office by November 1. Or you can give him an advance story. Write us for a sample release and artwork.

(4) Some conference boards use a return card with a letter to tabulate the number of churches planning to observe the day. This is good promotion, especially if a report is made at annual conference and to the District Superintendents.

District directors

Check with your conference board chairman on his plans. Then—

(1) How about a letter from your District Superintendent to each church urging the Commitment Day observance? (Only if the Bishop is not writing.)

(2) Outline the Commitment observance and display the materials at district conference and at the district ministers' meeting. Urge pastors to order materials early.

(3) Encourage the district secretaries of Christian Social Relations, and the Woman's Society of Christian Service to promote the day through local secretaries.

(4) Your D.S. might want you to write each local church to ask if plans are being made to observe the day. Tabulate your answers for a later report to him and at the district conference or both.

How widespread is Capitol Hill drinking?

Editor's note: Many Congressmen and Senators ignore Washington's free flowing cocktail circuit like the plague. Many are working hard to find legislation that will help solve alcohol problems.

But the cocktail circuit does exist on Capitol Hill. And here's the story:

"We deliver inconspicuously. We deliver promptly. We deliver!"

Roll Call, the newspaper of Capitol Hill, recently carried this advertisement by a plush wine and liquor store only half a block from the United States Capitol grounds.

Roll Call is a little weekly paper containing political news and gossip read mainly by members of Congress and their staffs. The advertisement was aimed at the inhabitants of the United States Capitol and the adjacent Senate and House offices.

The liquor messenger may be inconspicuous as he delivers the bottled goods, but the liquor itself is hardly inconspicuous.

Alcoholic beverages, once strictly prohibited, have increasingly invaded Capitol Hill. The old Supreme Court chamber, originally the home of the Senate, has become a favorite spot for drinking parties.

Another favorite spot is the Senate Caucus room. The public rarely sees the Caucus Room as it looks when the cocktail hour arrives, because the television cameras and news photographers pull out when the hearings are over.

Restaurant serves no liquor

The general manager of the Senate restaurant quickly points out that none of the facilities which the restaurant controls on Capitol Hill serve alcoholic beverages.

However, if a Senator wants to serve alcoholic beverages at a party or dinner, the Senate restaurant will furnish the set-ups. Its waiters—some of whom are experienced bartenders and mixed-drink-masters—will provide the service.

Since the Senate restaurant has no liquor license, all of the liquor is the personal property of the Senators and their aids, the restaurant staff explains. However, restaurant staff members do meet liquor deliverymen

downstairs and then deliver the bottles to the Senator's office.

The Senate restaurant controls three private dining rooms in the Capitol, including the famed Vandenberg Room. It also has two private rooms in the plush new Senate Office building. Senators can reserve these rooms for parties with or without alcoholic drinks.

On the House side of the Capitol mild 3.2 beer has been served in the House restaurant ever since the repeal of Prohibition in 1933. But, the manager of the restaurant reports that only about a case of the beer is sold each week.

This beer is served only in the restaurant on the ground floor of the Capitol. It is not sold in the Speaker's dining room, the cafeteria in the new House Office building, or any of the other private dining rooms.

The policy of the House restaurant, which is operated directly by the House of Representatives, is the same as that of the Senate restaurant. However, because of the number of Representatives and the size of the dining rooms available, relatively little drinking is done on the House side of the Capitol building.

House cocktail parties take place in the committee rooms or in the private office suites of the members. Every member of the House and Senate gets a refrigerator as part of his office equipment. Many of these contain a good supply of bottled goods.

Club, hotel feature drinks

Across the street from the old House building, the Capitol Hill club opens its doors for drinking Republican Congressmen and their guests.

Organized in 1953 by Republicans who felt that the Army and Navy club, the University club, and other such institutions were too far from their activities, the club now has 1,250 active members. Overcoming opposition from civic and religious organizations, the club was granted a class C alcoholic beverage license.

Sporting a cocktail lounge, the club serves a full list of wines and liqueurs with its lunches and dinners. Here tired GOP members and their aides can relax with the assurance that they will not miss any roll calls or important office calls.

When the House issues a quorum call or roll call vote, buzzers sound throughout the Capitol and at the Capitol Hill club so that members can hurry back to the legislative halls. However, most Congressmen find their day much too full to lapse into the easy living that the Capitol Hill club offers.

Behind the old House Office building stands the Congressional hotel, probably the site of more cocktail parties than any other spot on Capitol Hill. Owned by the government, but privately operated, the hotel features the well-known Veto, Caucus, and

(continued on the next page)

(continued from page 5)

Filibuster rooms, which are the scene of many Congressional drinking parties.

There are potential plans for the back patio of the Capitol which overlooks the Mall, the Washington monument, and the panorama of the city. Probably a new restaurant will be built here in the near future. Will it become a fancy drinking spot? If present trends continue, it probably will.

Liquor returns respectably

Liquor was banished from the Capitol half a century ago. The stories told of the early days when prominent Senators used to fall off the old footbridge over Tiber creek at the base of Capitol Hill are a pitiful part of past history.

Many times in the early days, drunken brawls erupted on the floor of the House and Senate. The Post-Civil War days when Congressmen were plied with vice and liquor led to the crusading spirit which swept America in the 1880's and 1890's.

Liquor, now cloaked with respectability and sophistication, is gradually creeping back into the precincts from which it was once banned. Will the new trend end in excesses that threaten the integrity of free government?

Dedicated citizens of America resent the sounds of free-drinking cocktail parties in one of the country's most sacred buildings, the United States Capitol.

—by Glenn Everett, RNS

Congress modifies outdoor advertising law

Last year 13 brewers and distillers ranking among the top 25 national outdoor advertisers spent $23,152,124 on billboard promotion.

With other leaders in outdoor advertising, these alcohol beverage companies are welcoming a recent modification to the federal outdoor control law.

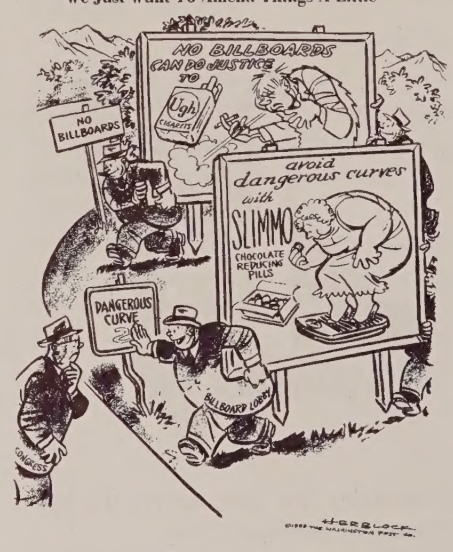
This provision became effective recently when President Eisenhower signed a bill raising gasoline taxes. The outdoor rider, pushed by Senator Kerr (D-Okla.), was tacked on to the gas bill in the midst of the adjournment rush.

The new bill provides that federal restrictions on outdoor advertising will not be applied on any section of the interstate system adjacent to commercial or industrial zones in an incorporated area, nor to other commercial or industrial land.

Outdoor industry spokesmen say that billboards on these portions of the highway will be regulated under local zoning rules.

Burr Robbins, president of General Outdoor Advertising, said that the new law assures complete control of advertising in rural and residential areas.

"We Just Want To Amend Things A Little"



However, opponents of the new provision point out that the exemption defeats one of the chief purposes for the control law—safety.

A spokesman for Garden clubs, one group interested in keeping billboards away from federal highways, explained their stand in this way:

"It is a vital part of the federal standards that approaches to interchanges be free of confusing and conflicting signs competing with official signs. Since many interchanges will be within municipalities, approaches to them will be death traps under uncontrolled conditions."

by *Caradine R. Hooton*

Press releases do not always speak the whole truth. Reporters who need punch lines to keep their columns alive sometimes highlight only the sensational. Temperance workers should be very thankful for every opportunity to state the facts about liquor and to take a stand for abstinence and effective legal controls.

With new approaches toward solutions of the complex alcohol problem, there is no retreat from old principles for which The Methodist Church has always given positive witness. Everything about the new temperance program should reveal to the discerning that we contend more than ever for total abstinence. We also seek the kind of prohibition that will protect people from the growing rapaciousness of the liquor traffic.

Headlines also often confuse issues. The October issue of *Together* left the erroneous impression upon casual readers that "Board opposes merger." The Board of Temperance has taken no such position in regard to proposed merger. For more than seven years it has carefully studied the pros and cons of this possibility. It has instituted a series of experiments in an honest effort to determine how effectively the present agencies of Christian social concerns can work together.

These experiments have revealed certain needs that must be met if a merged board could do what Methodists want to achieve in the area of social concerns. Last summer's action by the Executive Committee, opposing merger "at this time," was a recommendation upon which the Board will act at its next annual session in January. There is a way to federate Methodism's agencies that will strengthen the church's witness in each area of social concern.

WORLD PEACE

The World Peace Foundation of Boston has just released six volumes entitled "Studies in Citizen Participation in International Relations." These studies extend across various fields and interests resting upon a number of sociological studies undertaken by various funds and foundations in recent years.

Some aspects of the studies are invaluable to conference peace leaders and all other persons concerned with the average citizen's response to world affairs. Since not too many persons will read the entire set, here are a few significant summaries.

WORLD PEACE

The first volume deals in part with surveys which indicate the number of citizens informed and concerned about foreign policy. Fifty per cent are catalogued in the uniformed and uninterested classification. A third have only a broad headline idea of major problems. These have little valid knowledge.

Some 15 per cent are emotionally responsive, which means they are tied to one world problem or another by some strong emotional bond, usually to the exclusion of all other elements. Out of this group come the zealots, the fanatics, and those who have a simple one-shot objective which will cure all the ills of society.

Scarcely one per cent of the populace meet the criteria laid down by the commission for adequate, informed and responsive citizenry. To increase this one per cent is a major challenge.

The second volume deals with the influence of non-governmental groups in foreign policy-making. The author points out that business organizations, economic interest groups, and ethnic or minority groups have frequently been rather effective.

Conversely, general groups—such as most international peace organizations—groups with no personal

(continued on the next page)

(continued from page 7)

or vested interest in the problems at hand, and reform and citizenship groups—such as the League of Women Voters or church agencies—have been relatively ineffective.

Two volumes deal with opinion formation in American communities. One study says small groups and personal relations are the most fruitful setting for opinion change. Since mature judgment on world affairs exists in so small a segment of the population, social action leaders must realize they work against a climate of prevailing apathy and unconcern.

In fact, chapter three of Volume VI, on "Communication Within Small Groups," ought to be required reading for all leaders interested in attitude formation. The eight rules developed for effecting change apply directly to intimate groups the size of the average local church commission. Training meetings and briefing conferences might well discuss these eight factors in relation to current issues.

Other timely facts appear infrequently throughout the study series. For example, persons currently interested in the World Refugee Year and

a broader U. S. immigration policy need to face the facts that surveys reveal more than half of Americans would cut, not expand, immigration to our country. Only one American in four is willing to admit trained workmen and professionals from other lands whose talents ensure that they would not become public charges or liabilities to a community.

A set of these volumes is available from the Board of World Peace. Responsible leaders can borrow these books for short intervals to assure maximum circulation. Volumes in the series may be purchased individually from the foundation at stated prices which run from $1 to a $1.50 each.

. . . *affairs afar* . . .

Washington, D. C.: Recently the Cabinet Committee on Price Stability for Economic Growth, of which Vice President Nixon is chairman, made public a statement on "The Record on Prices" throughout United States history. Quotations from their report are interesting in terms of inflation and war material.

"The sharp peaks in the price level are all associated with war," the report declares.

"For years of peace, in contrast, the price level has on the average declined by roughly one-half of one per cent per year.

"Perhaps the greatest difference between the past quarter of a century and our previous history is that wartime price rises seem to have become permanent."

Denver: Dr. Liston Pope, Dean of Yale Divinity School, speaking to a church convocation, warned against unjustifiable pessimism.

"Society is a fluid, ever-changing realm; new problems generally resemble former ones, but they are never quite the same," he stated. "To lose heart about an immediate problem is defeatist; to suppose that it will have no successor is naive."

"The recent reaction against the superficial utopianism and perfectionism of 50 years ago has produced a more realistic and sober attitude toward human possibilities," he added. "It may provoke a counter-reaction if it despairs of human tasks and opportunities."

Ballynema, Ireland: Dr. Donald O. Soper, noted London Methodist minister, was boldly heckled by three clergymen and two laymen of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster while he was speaking at an outdoor peace meeting. The hecklers created such a disturbance that the meeting was thrown into disorder and the five troublemakers arrested and fined.

Stockholm: Western Europe's largest water power station, Stornorrfors on the Ume River in Northern Sweden, was officially opened September 13. It will produce enough electricity for an entire city the size of Stockholm, at one-fifth of one cent per kilowatt hour. Power will be transmitted by a 380,000 volt record transmission system. The new public power plant is one of more than one thousand hydro-electric plants in Sweden, only fifty of which are owned by the government.

An unusual feature of the plant is that it has been constructed entirely under-ground, such as many of the newer industrial installations in Sweden. Such installations are thought to be much less vulnerable in case of war and afford substantial underground shelter areas, although the total capacity will care for only a small percentage of the total population.

Green Lake, Wis.: Church support for changes in operational structure to improve the United Nations was called for by Dr. Kenneth L. Maxwell of the National Council of Churches. He continued, "Christians should guard against drastic criticism" of the UN which, he said, comes from "unimaginative nationalists who cannot see what the world would have been without the UN during the last 15 years." It also comes, he added, "from disengaged dreamers who do not take into account the realities of the world in which the UN has done well to play even its limited role."

New York: The information office of United Nations announced a special issue of the *Technical Assistance Newsletter* in October titled "Ten Years of Technical Assistance.

Professor of government sees need for information

Editors note: The concern of Dr. Carl W. Gamer, expressed in this article comes out of a rich and varied background. As an American boy abroad, he lived through World War I in Germany. As a youth he rejected electrical engineering for theological studies at Boston University School of Theology.

In the twenties and thirties he was so deeply affected by the social, economic, and political revolutions of the world that he turned to political science. He earned a Ph.D. degree in that field at the University of Illinois.

I am a Methodist professor of government teaching in a Presbyterian College at Monmouth, Ill. Thousands of students from many denominations have passed through my classes.

I find that students are increasingly concerned about politics, the many international crises, the prospects of nuclear war, and the taxation involved in the arms race. Last year 80 students joined the Politics club, 50 the Young Republicans, and 10 the Young Democrats.

My students and I have often wrestled with the question, "Why are not we as churchmen better informed concerning the exact official positions taken by our churches on the great problems of the day?" The much publicized expressions of some individual ministers seem to be better known than the positions taken by official bodies.

Resolutions unimpressive

It would appear that men who make laws in Springfield or Washington often know about the resolutions of church bodies, but they are not impressed by them. They *are* impressed by the same thoughts expressed by church members in their districts. In 1951 Congress took quick action on food for India, when thousands of letters came from individual churchmen.

If the millions of members of our Protestant churches accepted in good faith the specific recommendations spelled out in the *official* pronouncements of their denominations and used them as guides in support of or opposition to important policies, we would come much closer to peace and justice both at home and abroad.

The policy recommendations of church bodies may not be perfect, but if they are not used, churchmen all too readily accept the pronouncements of the many secular organizations to which they belong. These

latter pronouncements are far from perfect, too!

The Christian church has existed for two thousand years, has survived the rise and fall of many governments, and has a right to speak with a strong voice on matters of policy.

If we laymen or ministers are to get our insights on national policy from our denominations and the National Council of Churches, we must first of all have easy access to their pronouncements. We are now in the midst of a Nationwide Program for Peace under the National Council. We have in our hands the findings of the Fifth World Order Study Conference.

But where can we go to find a compilation of the resolutions of the *denominations* of the National Council on such important legislative items as surplus food, disarmament, fallout from atomic tests, the increase of population, communism, and unemployment?

I have not been able to secure such a compilation from the Department of International Affairs of the National Council, the Board of World Peace, the Friends Service Committee, or the University of Chicago.

Seemingly these national bodies do not have the money or the staff to devote to such a project, and there is not sufficient demand at the grass roots to justify the expenditure.

Collection funds offered

Dr. Robert W. Gibson, the President of Monmouth College and a devoted churchman, has offered to make available to me some funds with which to begin such a collection of church pronouncements for our college library. We think our students should be able to find out what their churches are saying about the issues which make for life or death in our generation.

I should like to ask you who are reading this article: "Do you have in your home the official pronouncements of The Methodist Church on all of those issues under the supervision of the Boards of Temperance, of World Peace, and Social and Economic Relations?"

You may find these in the back of the *Discipline* or in leaflets issued by these boards, whose addresses are also in the *Discipline* and, of course, in *Contact.*

—by Dr. Carl W. Gamer

• At the Southeastern Regional Briefing Conference a man from South Carolina displayed a list of 480 chairmen of local church commissions on Christian social relations. This excellent coverage of his conference probably is unmatched in Methodism.

Philosophers' conference aids world understanding

The East-West Philosophers' conference, which met at the University of Hawaii this summer, was the third of its kind. The first was held in 1939 on the very eve of the outbreak of the second world war, and the second during the summer of 1949.

The general purpose of these conferences is to promote understanding by assembling scholars who represent many different cultures and various philosophical and religious standpoints. These men present papers for mutual discussion on relevant subjects.

In some respects the conference proved disappointing. Not only was it a bit too academic and even pedantic at times, but no Iron Curtain philosophers were invited. Now that even the politicians are beginning more talks across national boundaries, the philosophers, of all people, certainly ought to be willing to take this step—as indeed many are.

Again I was rather surprised at the cynical and even defeatist attitude of some American philosophers. As one prominent representative of this tribe said to me: "As far as the problem of peace is concerned, I am a pessimist."

Conference worthwhile

Yet, in spite of these limiting factors, I shall never regret spending nearly a thousand dollars of my hard earned money and traveling nearly five thousand miles in order to attend this conference.

To begin with, the setting was superb. In Hawaii, one of the world's garden spots, East and West really meet in creative encounter. Here is an experiment in world community that bears watching.

As one distinguished Indian philosopher said to me: "Here no one pays any attention to your race, your color of skin, or the kind of clothes you happen to be wearing."

Among the philosophers were scholars such as Dr. E. A. Burtt of Cornell University, Dr. Paul Mus of the College de France, and two Buddhists, Dr. Hajime Nakamura of the University of Tokyo, and the Rev. Kiyoshi Matukuma, one of the priests at the temple of Fort Street, Honolulu.

Finally, and greatest of all, at this conference I had the privilege of meeting and hearing Dr. S. Radhakrishnan. Besides being one of the world's greatest living philosophers —perhaps, in fact, the very greatest —he is also Vice President of India.

In a remarkable address, "The Present Crisis of Faith," before an audience of not less than 1200 people, he pleaded for a faith sufficient for these times.

Moreover, in accordance with this ideal of high religion, he not only condemned militarism and power politics as unethical and hopelessly obsolete in the Nuclear Age, but he also insisted that the only way out of present difficulties is the path of

world understanding and world cooperation. "Above all nations," he said, quoting the motto of the University of Hawaii, "is humanity."

In short, everyone who is interested in the promotion of good will and understanding should be grateful to Dr. Charles A. Moore and his associates for making this conference the success that it undoubtedly proved to be.

—by Arthur W. Munk, chairman of the department of philosophy, Albion college

by *Daniel E. Taylor*

With other staff members I have recently shared in regional briefing conferences. After hearing many experts and much discussion, I have come to one conclusion. Perhaps that is dividend enough for one series of meetings.

That conclusion bears directly on current disarmament proposals and the problems of arms inspection and control. Let these hard issues be settled with a firm grasp of the facts involved. Let agreements be forged in substantial negotiations. Let every possible safeguard be built into the process. Humanity deserves no less.

For these issues are not easy. On the one hand, scientific and technical knowledge can detect almost every type of bomb test and nuclear explosion. Those urging more intricate checking systems are usually seeking to delay and postpone.

But stockpiles can be secreted. New discoveries in ABC warfare may suddenly give one side preponderant advantage. There are no guarantees of security or even safety.

Yet the crux of the problem does not lie in such practical considerations. Indeed, it never has; and doubtless it never will.

For the cardinal issue in disarmament does not lie in such practical considerations. Instead it involves the question of serious purpose to undertake major arms diminution. Above all, it is a matter of trust.

No foolproof safeguard against the tyrant and the usurper will be found within the imponderables of the human situation. Measurable security, yes; but that is all. Those who must have infallible protection are condemned to waiting. Those who will breast the hazards with trust possess the power to act. For, if the just shall live by faith, the modern must!

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The White House Conference on Children and Youth to be held March, 1960, has just revealed results of its state poll on the major problems to be discussed at the future conference.

Heading the list is juvenile delinquency. The report from the Washington conference executive said:

"Results of a nation-wide survey released today by the Golden Anniversary White House Conference on Children and Youth point to juvenile delinquency as the number one youth problem in the United States. Prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency is the subject that tops the list of 40 major 'areas of concern' reported by 45 states with committees preparing for the White House conference."

The General Board of Social and Economic Relations also believes that juvenile delinquency should be of major concern to our nation. Supporting this belief, the board invested time, effort, and money in the production of a text, *Understanding and Preventing Juvenile Delinquency.*

The board strongly recommends that local church commissions and Annual Conferences work through education and family life to bring the questions of juvenile delinquency into focus. Through such efforts the individual, family, local church, and community can determine their responsibilities.

The Church is working on this problem. For example, the North Mississippi Conference Board of Social and Economic Relations will sponsor a series of spring meetings on juvenile delinquency. The leaders will point out the responsibility of the family in our changing society.

Other high ranking subjects were: emotionally disturbed children, retarded children, children's spiritual life, school curriculum, minority group children, child labor laws, teenage drinking, radiation hazards.

The board hopes that you will be part of the 7,000 who will attend the conference in Washington next March.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Little Rock economics affected by race crisis

The Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools of Little Rock published a report entitled "A Little Rock Report—The City, Its People, Its Business." This deals concretely with the effect economically of racial and school disturbances upon Little Rock.

One of the most constructive pieces of literature we have seen on this problem, the report is backed with adequate information.

The report gives replies to questions of 68 plant officials and 101 professional doctors, engineers, and teachers. They were selected by a method of random sampling to represent a population of nearly 500 professional people and 70 plants which employ over 50 people in the Little Rock-North Little Rock Area.

It also reports on a number of incoming and departing families, real estate operators, sales and rentals, and new industries.

Statistical reports reveal the major industries of Little Rock for the period of 1957 and earlier, and discuss the relationship of Little Rock to other communities.

What has happened?

A portion of the report is related to the question, "What has happened since the school crisis?" Another section indicates the following:

Fewer people are moving into Little Rock, one-third fewer than in 1957. More families are moving out of the city, almost twice as many as in 1957. People with professional skills and training are refusing job offers in Little Rock because of the unsettled school situation, and many top professional and management people believe that community cultural standards will suffer if a good public education system is not maintained.

In reference to business since the school crisis, the following conclusions were given:

(1) New industry has avoided Little Rock. Several plant managers said that new industry would continue to avoid Little Rock unless the public high schools open.

(2) Many manufacturers believe that the city's business climate has been adversely affected by the school situation (The Chamber of Commerce reported that the school situation has had a bad effect.)

(3) Large manufacturing plants which sell chiefly to the Little Rock Area are planning production cutbacks.

(4) Real Estate business and home building are down 20 per cent. By many business indicators Little Rock has not been keeping pace with other cities in the area.

Are people leaving?

To the question "Are people moving in to the Little Rock Area or away?" three answers are given:

(1) Thirty-six per cent fewer families will move into the Little Rock

School district during 1959 than in 1957.

(2) Twice as many families will move away from Little Rock metropolitan area during 1959 than in 1957.

(3) For the first time in years more families will move out of the Little Rock Area in 1959 than will move in.

The report also deals with such questions as:

(1) Are jobs begging highly trained personnel?

(2) What has happened to morale in the community on such matters as family unity, employee efficiency, harmony in industry, and customer relations?

(3) Are private schools practical or are they too expensive?

An entire section discusses what has happened to business, new industry, employment, volume of sales, and so forth.

This is the sort of factual report which every community with school difficulties ought to inspect, for it contains constructive information and an enlightening experience from a city which has encountered the problem.

Resources available from Dallas conference

The Dallas Human Relations Conference is now history. Its impact on the Church is just now becoming evident. We know the event was a "watershed" in the life of the Church.

This is a preliminary announcement of the material which will be available for use on every level of the Church and particularly in local churches, and Annual Conferences.

(1) *Preparatory Material:* There are a limited number of these packages which have the basic preparatory material for the conference on the three questions:

(A) What is our Christian witness on race?

(B) What is the nature of the present racial crisis in our nation and the world?

(C) What can Methodists do?

This was prepared by Dr. Harvey J. D. Seifert, Southern California School of Theology; the Reverend Frank E. Shuler of Middletown, Ohio; and Dr. Dan W. Dodson of

New York University. A copy of *The Road to Brotherhood* is included in the package. The *Message* of the conference is also included. Price—$1.00.

(2) *Dramatic Interpretation of the Message:* This was written by Dr. E. Jerry Walker of Chicago. Entitled "Why Me?," it has been developed for use in the local church or a larger group.

A powerful drama of the struggle which the individual Christian faces on his own attitudes and practices in race relations, this drama made a tremendous impact upon the Dallas conference.

(3) *A Follow-up Package of Resource Material:* This is for the local church. It will contain a summary of the preparatory material, the *Message*, the dramatic interpretation, four Bible studies based upon the lectures of Dr. Charles Kraft, and a series of four action packages which will suggest specific tasks for the Church. The action packages include —the life of the Church on racial matters; the Church and its responsibility for inclusion, housing, education, and employment. Preliminary orders are now being taken for this package.

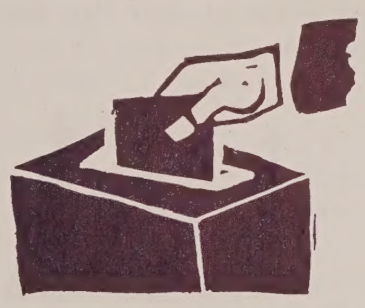
All the material may be ordered from the Conference Office, Room 305, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Ill.

Smear campaign danger seen for 1960 election

A new bulletin has been issued by the Fair Campaign Practices Committee, Inc., of which Mr. Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati, Ohio, is chairman. The report indicates that there is danger of widespread unfair campaigning in the 1960 elections, according to a state-by-state study of smear campaigns in elections.

The report showed that the incidence of unfair tactics in the 1958 general elections was double that of 1956, and that Roman Catholics had become the number one targets of religious prejudice in the election campaigns of 1958.

"With nominations of both parties for President and Vice-President sought by a number of candidates, several of them Roman Catholics, this finding is a cause for grave concern," commented Charles P. Taft, chairman of the non-partisan educational groups which conducted the survey. "It requires a large-scale and determined educational effort by our committee and all forces for good will and fair play."



"Obviously the 100 per cent increase in smears reported must concern us deeply, but this problem will yield to attack from three directions," Taft said. "First, the responsible press of the nation is devoting better and better coverage to unfair campaigning, exposing it to the voters.

"Second, the Fair Campaign Practices committee is reaching more present and future voters every year in an effort to make more people more aware of smear electioneering. Third, fewer and fewer candidates and responsible party leaders will have anything to do with smear; they find it distasteful and wrong on principle, but the payoff is that it loses elections—more every year."

Local church commissions on Christian Social Relations have a real responsibility in this field and attention should be given to the matter. This will be a way to protect the country against smear campaigns which cloud the issues, distort the facts, and introduce personal conflicts which do not serve the political interests of the electorate or the nation.

by *A. Dudley Ward*

As this issue is being prepared for press the problems of the steel strike which still continues are mounting.

Increasing numbers of large and small companies are now being shut down. General Motors has just announced the shutdown of one of its large plants.

The President has said, "I am sick and tired of the strike," and is about ready to take action.

It seems to me that the bases for settlement are reasonably clear and should be negotiated very quickly, both for the good of the industry and the nation and in order to preserve the genius of collective bargaining rather than turn to government for intervention and possible solution.

The bases for such settlement seem to me to be these:

(1) A contract of at least two years duration.

(2) Very modest increases in wages subject to a cost of living clause which would include provision for increases if the cost of living does rise and decreases if there should be a lowering of the cost index.

(3) If there are real inequities in the fringe benefits in comparison to other industries, some adjustment should be made but be kept at a minimum.

(4) The union should agree to either negotiate on work practices or submit the items at contention to arbitration.

(5) The company should announce a peg on prices for the duration of this contract.

It would be a good thing for the Church and its members particularly to call on both parties to act responsibly and get the strike settled.

If you need suggestions, the general Board of Social and Economic Relations will give advice in direct correspondence or discussion with any Methodist or group of Methodists around the Church.

"House of representatives" mobilizes church opinion

The California-Nevada Conference convenes a "House of Representatives." This convention to which delegates are invited from each church is governed by certain general rules concerning organization and participation. It very carefully classifies the type of business which will come before the House. It also discusses, freely and with penetration, a series of resolutions which have been introduced.

By adopting this format the sponsors have been able to inject into the discussions disciplined reasoning, presentation and consequent constructive decisions.

The results of this House of Representatives are sent to the proper authorities of the State and Federal Government. The local churches of the Conference are informed of the results.

Such novel ideas are worthy of emulation. If you would like further information, write to: Mr. Key Byram, chairman of the House of Representatives Seminars Committee, 583 Mangels Avenue, San Francisco 12, Calif.

Reconciliation campaign set for 1960 celebration

One of the best and most novel ideas which we have heard recently dealing with areas of tension is the Campaign of Reconciliation for 1960 which is to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Union of South Africa.

This campaign was the outcome of a suggestion put forward by the South African Fellowship for Reconciliation and supported by the Christian Council of South Africa.

The purpose is to "encourage people to look at their way of life through the mirror of the words and actions of Jesus in preparation for the part the churches might contribute toward next year's celebration of the Jubilee of Union."

In order to give substance to the Campaign of Reconciliation eight study guides have been prepared on "Seeking to be Christian in South Africa." These were published by *The Christian Recorder* in Standerton, TVL, Box 4I, and are very comprehensive and penetrating guides.

These are the topics:

(1) God First and Last—Allegiance to God Rather Than Man.

(2) Who Is My Neighbor—Love of God and Love of Man, Inseparable.

(3) Christ In Our Personal Relationships.

(4) Arguing on False Premises.

(5) Christ In Our Social Order.

(6) The Use of Our Resources.

(7) Where Does the Responsibility Lie?—What Can I Do?

(8) Faith in the Future.

Each one of these guides is accompanied by suitable questions and is designed for use by groups, especially small groups, who wish to face directly their problems.

This idea of a Campaign of Reconciliation strikes fire for the United States as a real possibility for dealing with some of the difficult tensions which this nation faces.

• One of the best things we have seen on the topic of inflation is a bulletin published by the Farm Bureau of Ohio; Discussion Sheet #32; entitled "Inflation Is Eating Us Up." The bulletin describes inflation in general terms and then specifically tells why inflation is a destroyer and what causes it. Finally it enumerates what people can do to stop inflation. Along with this there are discussion questions.

. . . *human rights* . . .

An increasing number of large cities and states have Commissions on Human Rights.

One of the newest is in the State of Missouri and a report for the first period of its life has been printed. It is an interesting document and indicates the broad ranges of its activities and the thoroughness with which it is going about its work. It is not a big document and could be read quite easily.

We are happy that one of our Methodist ministers is a member of the commission for the State of Missouri.

This brings two points to mind:

(1) That the formation of such committees on a community and state level is something for earnest social action work now.

(2) Methodist laymen and especially clergymen ought to find the time and the energy to become actively involved in these policy-making groups. It would be a good witness and fine service.

. . . *brotherhood* . . .

Forty-three per cent of the 265 churches of the New York East Conference have non-white participation.

Of the questionnaires returned, 78 per cent reported 100 churches with zero to five per cent non-white families; 10 per cent reported 13 churches with five to 10 per cent non-white families; 10 churches with 10 to 25 per cent non-white families; two each with 25 to 50 per cent and 50 to 75 per cent, and one with over 75 per cent non-white families.

In answer to the question, "Are attempts being made to reach the unchurched non-white Protestants in your community?," 32.7 per cent or 36 churches answered "no," while 62.8 per cent or 61 churches show some attempt or extensive effort is being made.

. . . at your service

AUDIO VISUALS

Eight Steps to Peace—by the Pierce Butler, Jr. Foundation for Education in World Law; a film series, each film 13½ minutes long, available from Board of World Peace, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Ill.

If used with supplemental help, these films are excellent for discussion starters. The titles of the films are:

(1) World Law, (2) Does Disarmament Make Sense?, (3) A Permanent UN Police Force, (4) What's in It for Everyone?, (5) Membership in the UN, (6) You and the UN, (7) Charter Review, (8) The Answer Now.

CALENDAR

Christian social relations events on the national, regional and annual conference level will be listed in the space below.

Suggestions for calendar items may be sent to the CONTACT editor.

October

14-21—National Adult School of Alcohol Studies and Christian Social Action, Camp Aldersgate, Little Rock, Arkansas.

16-18—Great Lakes Regional Young Adult Workshop, Pakagon State Park, Angola, Ind.

19, 21, 29, 30—Portland Area Interboard workshops; LeGrande, Hermiston, Portland (Sunnyside Church), and Salem (First Church) respectively.

25-30—Kansas conference united seminars; University Church, Salina; Stockton, Oakley, Dodge City, Great Bend, and Wellington respectively.

27-29—Northeastern Regional Briefing Conference on Christian Social Relations, The Inn, Buck Hill Falls, Cresco, Pa.

30-November 1—Social Ethics Professors Consultation, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.

November

1-2—Oregon Interboard Workshops; Eugene (First) and Medford (First) respectively.

2-6—Methodist Committee of Christian education, Cincinnati, Ohio.

3-4—North Alabama briefing conference.

9-10—Narcotics conference, Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington 2, D. C.

23, 24, 26, 27, 30—North Mississippi Temperance Institutes; Corinth First, Tupelo (St. Marks), Starkville, Durant and Grenada First respectively.

30-December 4—Saginaw Bay district United Nations Seminar.

December

1-4—North Mississippi Temperance Institutes; Greenville (Trinity), Clarksdale (First), Oxford, Senatobia respectively.

BOOKS

The Riddle of Roman Catholicism—published by Abington Press, $4.

One of the best on this topic, this book is good, informative preaching of top-notch scholarship. The historical and theological perspectives are well treated; the section on developments is good; and the suggestions for communication with Roman Catholics are excellent.

Economic Life Bibliography—the National Council of Churches has prepared a new bibliography for reading between the lines and behind the headlines on current issues in labor-management relations. This can be obtained from the Dept. of Church and Economic Life, the National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, N. Y.

The bibliography is arranged under four different categories:

(1) Current and long-range issues in the steel industry; (2) The inflation issue; (3) Labor legislation and labor-management relations; (4) Ethics and social responsibility vs. corruption in economic life.

Working Together For Urban Renewal—guide book on why, when, and how social welfare agencies and urban renewal agencies should work together; obtain from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, 1313 East 60th street, Chicago 37, Ill.—NAHRO publication N-407, $1.

This would be an excellent resource for illustrating how a variety of community interests can be brought together on this central problem.

The World Development Corporation—by Benjamin A. Javits, author of "The World Development Plan" and Leon H. Keyserling, author of "Supporting Economic Analysis."

The book contains the results of a study completed in the United States, Asia, and Europe.

It proposes a vast enlargement of private capital investment primarily from the United States in 70 economically sound projects in underdeveloped areas in the free world.

It basically is an attempt to encourage individuals and corporations to become the leaders in the investment in overseas projects which will aid in understanding and concretely assist in the development of presently undeveloped economies.

This is an excellent thing for individual businessmen in the local congregations to study.

Christian social relations achievement chart

How well does your Christian Social Relations commission function? Here is an achievement chart —designed by the commission of the Carbondale district, Ill.—that will help you evaluate your effectiveness and plan your program. Does your final score total 100 per cent?

I. Organization

☐ A. Commission organized as required by the Discipline (Para. 276); 5 per cent.

☐ B. Commission meeting regularly, quarterly, or monthly (preferred), and also attending first quarterly conference and workshop; 5 per cent.

☐ C. Commission studying its task. (Disc. Para. 276,278; sections 3, 7, 11, and Para 2020-2026. Also this chart and local church emphasis booklet No. 5); 5 per cent.

☐ D. Commission presenting Methodism's Social Creed (Para. 2020) to every congregation orally at least once annually and seeking in every possible way to apply its principles; 5 per cent.

II. Evaluation

☐ A. Representation at Christian Social Relations seminars; 5 per cent.

☐ B. Presentation to congregation or some organization within the church of any social relations film strip; 5 per cent.

☐ C. Survey (1) local church for number of persons committed to abstinence, (2) community for number of churches and number of liquor licenses issued, (3) for approximate amount spent locally for liquor; 5 per cent.

☐ D. Survey community for (1) local laws reflecting discrimination against races, religious or cultural groups, (2) labor practices in hiring, wage scale or work situation reflecting discrimination, (3) housing availability and rental rates reflecting discrimination; 5 per cent.

III. Implementation

(Two goals required for 10 per cent credit.)

☐ **Economic life (10%)**

(1) Two or more members of the local church commission attend one or more union meetings to express the church's concern and to work with labor and management to see the principles of Methodism's Social Creed applied.

(2) A worship service near Labor Day under the direction of this commission with a sermon related to the Christian laborer.

(3) Observance of Rogation Sunday or some day given to an emphasis on conservation of natural resources.

(4) A serious study into some local labor-management or farm problem by the commission with some possible action recommended.

☐ **Race relations (10%)**

(1) The observance of Race Relations Day with this commission cooperating with the Commission of Education to promote the program.

(2) Strenuous effort to secure attendance of at least one youth at an Inter-Racial camp.

(3) An exchange meeting with some racial, cultural, or religious group.

(4) Some positive step toward ending racial discrimination or for the maintenance of civil liberties or civil rights in your community.

☐ **World peace (10%)**

(1) Observance of World-Wide Communion Sunday when possible and support of the special offering to meet world need.

(2) A study of the organization and work of the United Nations and observance of UN Day, October 24 or World Order Sunday, November 9 or the nearest possible date.

(3) The commission providing information for the congregation concerning both sides of church issues before the UN.

(4) A presentation before the congregation regarding pacifism and war. This should clearly reveal the stand of a conscientious objector as well as the stand of a participant in the armed services.

☐ **Social welfare (10%)**

(1) Active participation in the PTA and school boards by a representative of the commission.

(2) Attendance of one person or more at National Family Life conferences.

(3) Observance of National Family Life week.

(4) Make some move toward meeting the need of youth for an adequate community center for recreational and leisure time activities.

☐ **Temperance (10%)**

(1) Observe Commitment Day and secure commitment of total abstainers.

(2) Urge enforcement of local, county, state, and federal laws regarding the use of alcohol, gambling, narcotics, and pornography; give written or vocal support to legislation concerning these evils.

(3) Publicly oppose and demand the cessation of all gambling operations within the local church area of responsibility.

(4) Urge study and financial support of local temperance programs.

☐ **Citizenship (10%)**

(1) Attendance of at least two members of the commission at district workshops on Christian Social Relations.

(2) Urge voting participation in every civic issue and participation by Christian laymen in running for political office.

(3) A study of the church's position on the separation of church and state and action to insure freedom of worship.

(4) Make suggestions as a commission for civic betterment and support all efforts for community improvement.